## **U.S. Embassy Asuncion, Paraguay**

## Security Message for U.S. Citizens – Demonstration Planned in Downtown Asuncion at 7:00 p.m. on August 27, 2014

The U.S. Embassy alerts U.S. citizens that there is a demonstration scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 27, 2014 in downtown Asuncion. A large number of demonstrators are expected in downtown Asuncion, specifically near the Plaza de Armas and the National Congress. The announced purpose of the event is to protest the current election process in the Congress.

Although this protest is expected to be peaceful, it can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Paraguay enroll in the Department of State's <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's <u>website</u>, where you can find current <u>Travel Alerts and Warnings</u>, including the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>. Read the <u>Country Specific Information for Paraguay</u>. For additional information, refer to the <u>Traveler's Checklist</u> on the State Department's website.

Contact the <u>U.S. Embassy</u> for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call <u>1-888-407-4747</u> toll-free in the United States and Canada or <u>1-202-501-4444</u> from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u> to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Paraguay is located at Avenida Mariscal Lopez 1776, Asuncion and is open Monday to Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Friday from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. Our phone number is 21-213-715. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, *outside of business hours*, the emergency *after-hours* number for the U.S. Embassy is 21-213-715.